

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 149498

50

ORIGIN SS-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /011 R

66605

DRAFTED BY: S/S-O:RKUCHEL

APPROVED BY: S/S-O:RKUCHEL

----- 086978

O 111513Z JUL 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO SECDEF

MIDEASTFOR IMMEDIATE

CINCUSNAVEUR IMMEDIATE

USCINCEUR IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 149498

EXDIS - MILITARY ADDRESSEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

FOLLOWING REPEAT TEHRAN 5694 SENT ACTION SECSTATE MANAMA

INFO CAIRO JIDDA KUWAIT, JULY 11TH:

QUOTE S E C R E T TEHRAN 5694

DEPT PASS SECDEF, MIDEASTFOR, CINCUSNAVEUR, USCINCEUR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, PFOR, US, IR, SA, RA, EG

SUBJECT: RETAINING MIDEASTFOR IN BAHRAIN

REF: STATE 146898

1. SUMMARY: GOI IS DISPOSED TO BE HELPFUL ON MIDEASTFOR ISSUE,
BUT WE DO NOT KNOW YET WHAT FORM IRANIAN ASSISTANCE WILL TAKE.
ACTION REQUESTED: APPRECIATE ADVICE ON LINE GOI MIGHT TAKE WITH
GOB SHOULD IRANIAN MFA ASK FOR OUR SUGGESTIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. ON JULY 10 AMBASSADOR SAW COURT MINISTER ALAM FOR DISCUSSION
OF FUTURE OF MIDEASTFOR AT BAHRAIN. AMBASSADOR PRESENTED LETTER
WHICH DREW ON REFTEL AND OTHER SOURCES TO MAKE FOLLOWING POINTS:

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 149498

(1) APPARENT GOB INCLINATION TO REVERSE DECISION ON TERMINATION OF AGREEMENT, (2) GOB'S INTEREST IN IRANIAN AND SAUDI VIEWS, (3) RADICAL ELEMENTS ON BAHRAIN, (4) INCREASING SOVIET ACTIVITY IN GULF AREA, AND (5) UTILITY OF MIDEASTFOR PRESENCE IN CONNECTION WITH LATTER TWO POINTS. LETTER EXPRESSED HOPE GOI SHARED THESE US INTERESTS AND ASKED FOR IRAN'S VIEWS. COPY OF LETTER POUCHED NEA/IRN.

3. DURING ENSUING CONVERSATION, AMBASSADOR DISCUSSED AT LENGTH IMPLICATIONS OF HEIGHTENED SOVIET ACTIVITY IN PERSIAN GULF AND OBSERVED THAT WE WERE AWARE THAT PUBLIC GOI POSITION ON REGIONAL SECURITY MIGHT CREATE PROBLEMS FOR IRAN SHOULD IT WISH TO ASSIST WITH MIDEASTFOR. GIST OF ALAM'S REPLY WAS THAT, IRANIAN PUBLIC POSITION NOTWITHSTANDING, IT WOULD BE "TERRIBLE" FOR US NAVY TO LEAVE PERSIAN GULF AT TIME WHEN SOVIETS WERE AUGMENTING THEIR PRESENCE AND ACTIVITIES.

4. DURING EVENING SAME DAY, ALAM CALLED AMBASSADOR TO ADVISE THAT SHAH HAD READ LETTER AND DIRECTED THAT "NECESSARY STEPS WILL BE TAKEN". MATTER HAD BEEN REFERRED TO FOREIGN MINISTER WHO WOULD STUDY "AGREEMENT" TO ASCERTAIN WHETHER THERE MIGHT BE SOME CLAUSE THAT WOULD "ALLOW FOR DEVIATION". WE ARE NOT CLEAR WHAT THIS MEANS. IT MAY MEAN THAT ALAM HAD REFERENCE TO AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN IRAN AND BAHRAIN THAT WAS DRAWN UP AT TIME OF BAHRAIN INDEPENDENCE. IT MAY ALSO MEAN THAT MFA WILL BE LOOKING AT HOMEPORTING AGREEMENT TO DETERMINE WHETHER THERE MIGHT BE SOME LOOPHOLE THROUGH WHICH IT MIGHT SUGGEST GOB COULD SLIP TO ESCAPE TERMINATION DECISION.

5. ON JULY 11 DCM CALLED NADIM AT MFA WHO CONFIRMED THAT MINISTRY WAS SEIZED WITH PROBLEM AND THAT FOREIGN MINISTER WOULD BE IN TOUCH WITH US ON JULY 13.

6. PLEASE LET US KNOW BY NIACT IMMEDIATE CABLE IF DEPARTMENT OR MANAMA HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS OF LEGAL LOOPHOLES IN THE HOMEPORTING AGREEMENT OR OTHER POINTS TO BE MADE WITH GOB WHICH WE MIGHT PASS TO FOREIGN MINISTER. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT MFA WILL HAVE ITS OWN IDEAS, BUT IT MAY LOOK TO US FOR ASSISTANCE IN HANDLING TASK IMPOSED BY SHAH. WHETHER OR NOT SUGGESTIONS ARE LEGALLY SOUND WOULD NOT BE THE MAIN POINT. IT WOULD SEEM TO US SUFFICIENT FOR IRAN TO

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 149498

HAVE SOME SUBSTANTIVE AND REASONABLY CONVINCING ADVICE TO PASS TO THE GOB WHICH WOULD IMPLICITLY CONVEY IRAN'S ENDORSEMENT OF RETENTION OF MIDEASTFOR AT BAHRAIN.
HELMS

UNQUOTE KISSINGER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TROOP DEPLOYMENT, NAVAL FORCES, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, MILITARY BASE AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: shawdg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE149498
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: O:RKUCHEL
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740185-0404
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740757/aaaabwpm.tel
Line Count: 113
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: STATE 146898
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13-Aug-2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <21 FEB 2003 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RETAINING MIDEASTFOR IN BAHRAIN
TAGS: MARR, PFOR, US, IR, SA, BA, EG
To: DOD MULTIPLE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005